

Message Text

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S/S-O JMEALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USDELMC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136159

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS. MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO DPC MINISTERIAL

REFS: USNATO 3028; USNATO 3030; USNATO 3201; USNATO 3233;

USNATO 3260; STATE 127286

1. THE INITIAL WASHINGTON REACTION TO LUNS PROPOSAL FOR
FOLLOW-UP TO THE MEETING OF THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE
IN MINISTERIAL SESSION 7 JUNE 1973, PO (73)96 REPORTED IN
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USNATO 3233 IS CONCERN OVER WHAT APPEARS TO BE A MATTER OF
FACT, BUSINESS AS USUAL, APPROACH TOWARD THE SUBSTANTIVE
PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AT
THE DPC. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FOLLOW-UP ACTION SHOULD BE

TO PRESENT TO THE MODS AT THE DECEMBER DPC A SERIES OF DETAILED PROGRAMS, WITH PROGRESS MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING FEATURES, TO IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSALS AT THE JUNE 7 DPC.

2. WE AGREE WITH MISSION POSITION OUTLINED IN USNATO 3201 THAT NEGLECTING ESTABLISHED NATO MACHINERY COULD MAKE OUR ALLIES SUSPICIOUS OF OUR MOTIVES AND COULD SLOW UP PROGRESS.

3. HOWEVER, THE LUNS PROPOSAL IN SOME INSTANCES DOES NOT MAKE ADEQUATE USE OF NATO MACHINERY OR ANY OTHER MODALITY TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES WE HAVE RAISED IN THE KISSINGER SPEECH, THE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT, AND IN THE SCHLESINGER DPC PRESENTATION. THE US DESIRES TO FULLY UTILIZE ESTABLISHED NATO MECHANISMS, AS WELL AS SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS, NATO WORKING GROUPS. AND PARALLEL BILATERAL EFFORTS TO VIGOROUSLY PURSUE THE TOPICS WE HAVE INSCRIBED ON THE ALLIANCE AGENDA FOR THE YEAR OF EUROPE.

4. BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING. WE AGREE THAT A CONCEPTUAL STUDY LEADING TO A REVISION OF CURRENT GUIDELINES AND STRATEGY IS NOT WHAT IS REQUIRED. WE FURTHER AGREE THAT THESE ISSUES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES DURING THE PREPARATION OF FORCE GOALS, THE ANNUAL PLANNING REVIEW, THE AD-70 PROCESS, AND THE ONGOING WORK IN THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP. HOWEVER, WE SUPPORT MISSION RECOMMENDATION THAT SPECIFIC AGREEMENT BE SOUGHT TO ELIMINATE ANOMALIES WITH REFERENCE TO A SUBSTANTIAL CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY. THE BEST WAY OF ACHIEVING THIS END WOULD APPEAR TO BE THROUGH EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG) EXAMINATION OF CURRENT DEFENSE PLANS, ISSUES, AND SUPPORTING CONCEPTS IN ORDER TO MAKE A REPORT TO MINISTERS IN DECEMBER AND IN SPRING WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BY NATION AND BY MILITARY COMMAND. THE FIRST STEP IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT WOULD BE IDENTIFICATION OF THE SPECIFIC ISSUES IN THE DEFINITION OF AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE POSTURE AS WELL AS THE ELEMENTS AND ANOMALIES INCONSISTENT WITH SUCH A POSTURE. THE REPORT WOULD ALSO INCLUDE SPECIFIC ATTAINABLE GOALS FOR CORRECT-
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ION OF THE IDENTIFIED DISCREPANCIES, AND A SCHEDULE FOR ATTAINMENT. WITH REGARD TO TACTICAL NUCLEAR DOCTRINES WE SHOULD SEEK FOCUS ON PHASE II OF THE STUDY OF FOLLOW-ON TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY NATO.

5. CERTAIN CRITICAL AREAS OF FORCE IMPROVEMENTS. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO ADEQUATE AND, IN FACT, IMPROVED SPECIFIC REPORTING ON ALL CRITICAL ITEMS OF FORCE IMPROVEMENT IDENTIFIED IN THE AD-70 SPRING REVIEW, ESPECIALLY AS SHOWN IN PARAGRAPH 19A OF DPC/D(73)7, THE AD-70 REPORT. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT OUR EMPHASIS ON CERTAIN CRITICAL ITEMS CAN BE QUOTE TAKEN CARE OF NATURALLY UNQUOTE IN THE COURSE OF PLANNED REVIEWS AS LUNS' PO SUGGESTS. RATHER, WE

WOULD EXPECT NATIONS TO AGREE TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC IMPROVE-
MENT AREAS ADDRESSED BY MR. SCHLESINGER. WE WOULD EXPECT
SPECIFIC ACTION WITH REGARD TO SHELTERS FOR AIRCRAFT,ANTI-
TANK WEAPON CAPABILITIES, AND WAR RESERVE STOCKS. WE
SUPPORT MISSION

CONCEPT OF SPECIAL REPORTING ON STATUS OF THESE DEFENSE
ELEMENTS,"BUT MORE THAN THAT WE EXPECT TO SEE PROPOSALS
MADE TO MINISTERS FOR FURTHER COMMITMENTS TO IMPROVE-
MENTS IN THESE AREAS. THUS, THE US DESIRES THAT THE
DPC PREPARE THREE REPORTS TIED TO THREE SPECIFIC
PROGRAMS BASED ON DETAILED CONTRIBUTIONS BY NATIONS
WHICH WOULD ADDRESS PRESENT AND PROGRAMMED NATIONAL
CAPABILITIES RATHER SPECIFICALLY DEFINED. PLANS AND
ANALYSES IN SUPPORT OF CURRENT PROGRAMS AND SIMPLE
SPECIFIC ACHIEVABLE GOALS SHOULD BE INCLUDED. WE ACCEPT
FACT THAT QUESTION OF MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF EXISTING
TACTICAL AIR ASSETS WILL BE ADDRESSED UNDER THE AEGIS OF
THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, BUT WE ARE NOT IMPRESSED WITH THE
SHORT SHRIFT GIVEN THIS TOPIC IN THE PO. THIS ISSUE
SHOULD RECEIVE ADEQUATE EMPHASIS FROM THE LEVEL OF PERM-
REPS AND EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE PUT FORWARD IN EVERY
APPROPRIATE ARENA TO INSURE THAT ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO
RESOLVING THE MATTER WITHOUT DELAY.

6. DUTCH SPECIALIZATION PROPOSAL. WE AGREE WITH MISSION
THAT SPECIAL WORKING GROUP OR COMMISSION SHOULD TAKE UP
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THE STUDY OF THIS MATTER. THE US WILL WISH TO
PARTICIPATE IN THIS ENDEAVOR WHICH WE CONSIDER TO BE
PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT. WE SUPPORT THE DUTCH PAPER IN-
SO FAR AS IT CALLS FOR A REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS TO
BE SUBMITTED TO THE DPC IN DECEMBER. HOWEVER, WE AGREE
WITH MISSION THAT TERMS OF REFERENCE NEED TO BE
DELINEATED MORE SHARPLY, AND WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT
THEY SHOULD BE EXPANDED. WE WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE
SHORTLY.

7. BURDEN SHARING. WE ARE OPPOSED TO ASSIGNING THIS
UNDERTAKING TO AN AD HOC GROUP WITHIN THE DPC
AT THIS TIME. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF POSSIBLE
FRENCH INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION AND WE WISH TO EXPLORE
THIS POSSIBILITY BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER ON THIS MATTER.
TO ASSIST YOU IN PREPARING YOUR PRESENTATION TO WHATEVER
FORUM IS SELECTED TO HANDLE THIS PROBLEM WE ARE PREPARING
SEPTEL WITH OUR POSITION. SEPTEL WILL MAKE OUR OBJECTIVES
CLEAR BUT WE WANT ALLIES TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN DEVELOPING
SPECIFIC FORM AND CONTENT OF MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

8. THE RELATIVE FORCE CAPABILITIES WORKING GROUP SHOULD
CONTINUE ITS NORMAL REVIEW PROCESS. BEGIN FYI. WE

ARE NOT PREPARED TO ENTER MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON
RELATIVE CAPABILITIES AT THIS TIME AND CANNOT UNDERTAKE
A COMMITMENT FOR SUCH PRESENTATIONS. OUR BILATERALS
ARE UNDERWAY AND WILL CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME. ALTHOUGH
WE INTEND TO WORK TOWARD AN QTE AGREED UNQTE ASSESSMENT

OF THE BALANCE WE DO NOT CONSIDER SUCH AGREEMENT A PRE-
REQUISITE TO UNDERTAKING THE POSITIVE IMPROVEMENTS WE
HAVE PROPOSED. END FYI.

9. MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS. WE DO NOT
OBJECT TO LANGUAGE IN PO ON THIS ITEM.

10. CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS. THIS
PO AS WRITTEN HOLDS OUR OPTIONS OPEN FOR THE FUTURE,
AND WE INTEND TO WATCH PROGRESS IN THIS AREA CAREFULLY.

11. IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS IN NEXT MEETING
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OF THE DPC YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK MORE SUBSTANTIVE,
SPECIFIC, AND VIGOROUS DEFINITION OF WORK PLANNING WHICH
WILL TRANSLATE US PROPOSALS OF JUNE 7 INTO ACTION. AS
A MINIMUM WE DESIRE THE PO REVISED AS WE HAVE INDICATED
IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS. ROGERS

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